

SHERROD WILLIAMS.

JUNE 15, 1842.

Read, and laid upon the table.

Mr. T. W. WILLIAMS, from the Committee on Mileage, submitted the following

REPORT:

*The Committee on Mileage, to whom has been referred the memorial of Mr. Sherrod Williams, asking the payment of two hundred and forty dollars, as mileage for travelling six hundred miles at the second session of the twenty-sixth Congress, report :*

That the ground on which Mr. Williams predicates this claim is, that, for the purpose of attending upon that session of Congress, he was compelled to travel, in going to and returning from Washington city, "six hundred miles further than the usual route," because of ill health. The act of 22d January, 1818, provides that each member of the House of Representatives "shall also be allowed eight dollars for every twenty miles of the estimated distance, by the most usual route, from his place of residence to the seat of Congress, at the commencement and end of every such session and meeting." Another section provides that, "in case any Representative or Delegate has been, is, or shall be, detained by sickness on his journey to or from the session of Congress, or, after his arrival, has been, is, or shall be, unable to attend the House of Representatives, he shall be entitled to the same daily allowance." From the foregoing provisions of the law, it will be seen that none other than the "most usual route" is allowed to be paid for; and sickness, which is provided for in certain cases, seems not to have been designed as a sufficient reason why the *increase of travel* should be paid for. The committee do not think that the present case constitutes any sufficient cause for a change of the law in this particular, and therefore report that the prayer of the petitioner ought not to be granted.

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